

**Capitol Complex Restoration and Beautification Commission
Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, May 5, 2004
3:00 PM**

Commission members participating in the conference call: John Day, Dennis Eismach, Gary Galyardt, Dr. James Hansen, Patricia Harding, and Carla Sahr. The conference call operator was not able to connect Charles Burke into the conference call. Excused: Tim Engel. Bureau of Administration staff: John Moisan, Special Projects Director; and Gloria Guericke, Recording Secretary.

John Moisan called the meeting to order at 3:08 PM. John noted he was standing in for Commissioner Paul Kinsman, who had a scheduling conflict.

Soldiers and Sailors Building Handicap Ramp

John Moisan discussed the wooden ramp which was installed many years ago at the Soldiers and Sailors Building. The ramp is deteriorating and we have had many complaints about it. A redesign the ramp had been under discussion. Around the same time, we received a request from the Military Order of the Purple Heart Memorial Program regarding a memorial they have available. This group honors people who have received a Purple Heart in combat.

John referenced the drawing of the front of the Soldiers and Sailors Building, which was faxed to Commission members yesterday. The plan is to remove the wooden ramp and install a concrete sidewalk and handicap ramp. This will allow easy access to the State Veterans office located on the 1st floor of the Soldiers and Sailors Building.

John described the monument to the Commission members since the faxed copy did not convey the colors on the monument, plus the monument text was hard to read.

John explained that the monument was incorporated into the handicap ramp proposal because the Commission had expressed concerns earlier about too many monuments ending up around Capitol Lake. The Liberty Bell will be in the same (approximately 20' x 20') area so visitors can view both features while approaching the building.

Carla felt that a nice job was done in incorporating these items into the much-needed handicap ramp revision. Pat agreed with Carla's comments.

Dr. Hansen moved and John Day seconded the motion to proceed with the proposed sidewalk, ramp and monument proposal. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Repairs to the WWII Memorial

John Moisan explained that freezing and thawing has caused damage to the granite pavers at the WWII Memorial as the grout is not conducive to this temperature fluctuation. Syverson Tile is scheduled to do extensive repairs to the entire veterans memorial.

Condensation build-up has been causing lighting problems on the lights at ground level around the memorial. John informed the Commission that work will commence this summer to eliminate this problem.

John stated that footings will be put in during the month of August next to the Korean and Vietnam memorial stones. The footings will be hidden until needed. The footings will hold the Korean and Viet Nam statues; the Korean one to be set in place later this year.

Mayor Eismann asked if the gold letters under the glass on the memorial marker have been repaired. John said that this repair was made about a month ago. Condensation disallowed the paint to stick, so the letters are now frosted onto the glass.

All the memorial work is to be done before the upcoming Dedication. John informed the Commission members that they will have an invitation to the Korean War Memorial Dedication, which is scheduled for September 18. A crowd of 15,000 is anticipated. Most of the soldiers should be home from Iraq by this time and we hope to have them participate in the event. Layne Larsen, a nationally known singer, will be one of the performers at the Dedication.

Peninsula Arbor

John explained that we have received a number of complaints about the arbor on Capitol Lake Peninsula. Many people find it unattractive. The Peninsula is a popular place for weddings and a number have been scheduled for the month of June. Several of the wedding parties have asked that the arbor be removed whereas others want it available for wedding photos. We recommend removal, but will have it available through June 2004 for the weddings already scheduled.

Pat Harding moved and John Day seconded the motion that the arbor be removed and be made available through June.

Carla Sahr felt a more permanent decision should be made. A substitute motion took place.

Carla Sahr moved and Pat Harding seconded the motion that the arbor be totally removed by July 1, 2004. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

John asked if any of the Commission members had any questions regarding today's meeting topics.

Gary Galyardt asked if the interior of the Soldiers of Sailors Building had been brought up to handicap-accessible standards. John replied that the probable goal is to install an elevator at some point. At present, only the first floor is handicap accessible. Careful consideration was made when locating an office on 2nd floor. The Real Estate Commission is the only office on this floor. All the Commission's correspondence asks that individuals with special needs let them know in advance so they can arrange for a meeting location on first floor.

John Day moved and Gary Galyardt seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 3:26 PM